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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/017,959	02/03/1998	DAVID A. BERNHARDT	8117-000021	9076	
7:	590 09/09/2002				
HARNESS DICKEY & PIERCE			EXAMINER		
P O BOX 828 BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48303			PIERCE, WI	PIERCE, WILLIAM M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			3711	29	
			DATE MAILED: 09/09/2002	- 1	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Application No.: 09/017,959

Art Unit: 3711

The reply brief filed 5/28/02 has been entered and considered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision on the appeal.

The Board's attention is drawn to a copending application to similar subject matter by the same inventor also awaiting a decision by the Board.

Any inquiry concerning this communication and its merits should be directed to William Pierce at E-mail address bill.pierce@USPTO.gov or at telephone number (703) 308-3551.

Any inquiry not concerning the merits of the case such as missing papers, copies, status or information should be directed to Tech Center 3700 Customer Service Center at (703) 306-5648 where the fax number is (703) 308-7957 and the email is Customerservice3700@uspto.gov.

For official fax communications to be officially entered in the application the fax number is (703) 305-3579.

For informal fax communications the fax number is (703) 308-7769.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the **status** of this application or proceeding can also be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1148.

Any inquiry concerning the **drawings** should be directed to the Drafting Division whose telephone number is (703) 305-8335.

WILLIAM M. PIERCE PHAGARY EXAMINER